

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MMB Docket No: 1671-0213

J&J Reference: DEP 671

In re patent application of: Gundlapalli et al.

Serial No. 10/061,513

Filing Date: February 1, 2002

Examiner: P. Philogene

Group Art Unit: 3732

For: **Method and Apparatus for Surgically Preparing a Tibia for
Implantation of a Prosthetic Implant Component which has an Offset
Stem**

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PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)

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In connection with the Office Action dated September 18, 2003 in the above-entitled application, Applicant respectfully requests a one (1) month extension in which to file a response, from December 18, 2003 to January 18, 2004. However, note that January 18, 2004 fell on Sunday, and Monday, January 19, 2004 was a Federal Holiday (Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday). Thus, this Amendment is being timely filed within the one-month extension period on Tuesday, January 20, 2004.

The fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) is submitted herewith. Also, please provide any further extensions of time which may be necessary and charge any fees which may be due to Deposit Account No. 13-0014, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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